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United States Patent [19]**Schlecht**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,242,700**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 7, 1993****[54] TREATMENT OF EXTRACTS OBTAINED BY
SPLIT EXTRACTION OF COFFEE**[75] Inventor: **Klaus Schlecht**, Orbe, Switzerland[73] Assignee: **Nestec S.A.**, Vevey, Switzerland[21] Appl. No.: **953,565**[22] Filed: **Sep. 29, 1992****[30] Foreign Application Priority Data**

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[51] Int. Cl.⁵ **A23F 5/26**[52] U.S. Cl. **426/387; 426/434;
426/388; 426/386**[58] Field of Search **426/434, 387, 386, 388****[56] References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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1963, pp. 262, 263.*Primary Examiner*—Joseph Golian*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Vogt & O'Donnell**[57] ABSTRACT**

Roast and ground coffee is extracted by a split extraction process to obtain an extract from an atmospheric stage and an extract from a pressure stage. The extract produced by the atmospheric stage is evaporatively concentrated to a dry matter content of above 35% by weight, and the evaporation vapors produced during evaporative concentration are condensed and concentrated. The extract produced by the pressure stage also is evaporatively concentrated to increase its dry matter concentration to a dry matter concentration below 25% by weight. The two concentrated extracts then are mixed, and that mixture is evaporatively concentrated to a dry matter concentration of more than 40% by weight. The condensed and concentrated vapors obtained from evaporative concentration of the atmospheric stage are introduced into the evaporatively concentrated mixture or into a powder obtained from the concentrated mixture.

8 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet